



New Approaches for Handling Bats During a Survey for Emerging Zoonotic Pathogens in Georgia

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The goal of the survey was to understand occurrence and distribution of various emerging high-consequence pathogens in Georgian bats.



In order to mitigate the spread of contamination, avoid and minimize exposure, we decided to change biosafety issues for bat handling working environment, in second round of sampling



While improving of biosafety risks in relation to sampling, we decreased the chance for spillover of above-mentioned pathogens in environment during the field works.

Table 2 Detection of *Bartonella*, *Brucella*, and *Leptospira* in bats from Georgia, 2012

Bat species	# Tested	<i>Bartonella</i>		<i>Brucella</i>		<i>Leptospira</i>		<i>Yersinia</i>	
		# Pos	Prevalence (%)	# Pos	Prevalence (%)	# Pos	Prevalence (%)	# Pos	Prevalence (%)
<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	17	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i>	27	13	48	2	7	4	15	0	0
<i>Myotis blythii</i>	68	26	38	2	3	21	31	0	0
<i>Myotis emarginatus</i>	42	12	29	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	11	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rhinolophus euryale</i>	28	12	43	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rhinolophus ferrumequinum</i>	24	12	50	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	218	77	35	4	2	25	11	0	0